Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 02455 221310Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 CU-02

EB-07 AGR-05 SAM-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 /083 W

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, UR, UY

SUBJ: CERP 002: RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES: SOVIET CULTURAL CENTER DISSOLVED BY GOU

REFS: A) MONTEVIDEO A-175, NOVEMBER 16, 1974 AND B) MONTEVIDEO 54.

- 1. GOU THROUGH PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ANNOUNCED DISSOLUTION OF URUGUAYAN-SOVIET CULTURAL INSTITUTE JULY 16, 1975. DECREE ACCUSES THE INSTITUTE OF ANTI-URUGUAYAN ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDE CLOSE TIES WITH OUTLAWED ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE CNT (COMMUNIST LABOR CENTRAL) AND THE PCU (COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY).
- 2. CENTER HAD BEEN PHYSICALLY CLOSED BY LHU IN NOVEMBER, 1973. LATEST ACTION DISSOLVES ORGANIZATION, WHICH THE DECREE ADMITS DOES NOT LEGALLY EXIST, BUT WHICH OPERATES DE FACTO.
- 3. THE ACTION BY THE GOU MOST LIKELY IS RELATED TO THE GOU'S INABILITY TO CONSUMMATE, AT THIS TIME, A DEAL TO SELL MEAT TO THE SOVIET UNION. GOU PROBABLY EXPECTED SUCH DEAL HAD BEEN ASSURED BY ITS RELEASE OF CPU FIRST SECRETARY RODNEY ARISMENDI (REF B), AND THESE EXPECTATIONS WERE RAISED BY THE SUBSEQUENT VISIT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MONTEV 02455 221310Z

A SOVIET MEAT INSPECTION TEAM. IN THE PAST FEW DAYS THE LOCAL

MEDIA HAD BEEN SAYING THAT SOVIET FAILURE TO BUY URUGUAYAN MEAT IS DUE TO "SOVIET ECONOMIC AGGRESSION."

4. DISSOLUTION URUGUAYAN-SOVIET CENTER COULD BE CONSTRUED AS WARNING TO SOVIETS THAT GOU MAY BE PREPARED TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION. POINTEDLY DECREE SAID CENTER WAS DIRECTED BY SOVIET CULTURAL ATTACHES. IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT TWO SUCH ATTACHES WERE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA BY GOU SOME YEARS AGO.

5. SOVIETS HAVE FOR SOME TIME MAINTAINED A FAIRLY LOW PROFILE IN HOPE OF AVIODING A DIPLOMATIC BREAK. LATEST GOU ACTION INDICATES IT EXPECTED MORE THAN JUST GOOD BEHAVIOR FROM THE SOVIETS. SIRACUSA

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Message Attributes

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